AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A sustained release pharmaceutical dosage form consisting of

(i) a homogenous matrix ~~selected from~~ comprising a pharmaceutically active agent and a fat-wax matrix material ~~and~~ or ~~a polymeric matrix, which matrix comprises a mixture of a pharmaceutically active agent and a~~ particles of polymeric material selected from [[a]] hydrophilic polymer and inert plastic; and

(ii) a retaining means for securing the dosage form in a buccal or sublingual location, wherein said active agent, when swallowed, is released gradually over an extended time period and absorbed systemically in the gastrointestinal (GI) tract; is not absorbed through the oral mucosa to a substantial extent; and is absorbed solely in the upper GI tract.

2-3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) The dosage form of claim 1, wherein the retaining means is a mucoadhesive.

5. (Currently Amended) The dosage form of claim 1, wherein the ~~the~~ retaining means is a holding device.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) The dosage form of claim 1, wherein the active agent is ~~doxycycline,~~ trospium chloride, clonazepam, ampicillin, amoxicillin, riboflavin, levadopa, talinolol, furosemide, or cefixime ~~or cyclosporin~~.

8-13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously Presented) A process for preparing the dosage form of claim 1, comprising (a) combining the pharmaceutically active agent with a fat-wax material or particles of polymeric material to form a matrix ~~materials~~ and (b) fabricating the combination of (a) into a tablet or disc.

15. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 14, further comprising applying a retaining means ~~mucoadhesive~~ to one surface of the tablet or disc, wherein the retaining means is a mucoadhesive.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Previously Presented) The dosage form of claim 1, wherein the hydrophilic polymer is selected from sodium carboxymethylcellulose, methylcellulose, hydroxypropylcellulose, hydroxyethyl cellulose, polyethylene oxide, polyvinyl pyrrolidone, polyvinyl acetate, carboxyl polymethylene, alginic acid, gelatin, and natural gum.

18. (Previously Presented) The dosage form of claim 1, wherein the inert plastic material is selected from polyvinyl chloride, polyethylene, vinyl acetate/vinyl chloride copolymer, vinylidene chloride/acrylonitrile copolymer, acrylate methylmethacrylate copolymer, ethyl cellulose, cellulose acetate, and polystyrene.